

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9328

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS AU

SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STATUTORY CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY
FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

REF: STATE 196640

1. INITIAL REACTION OF MFA DIRECTOR WESTERN AFFAIRS AGSTNER
TO POSSIBLE AGREEMENT GOVERNING MAP TRAINING AND SERVICES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH TEXT OF NOTE PROVIDED REFTEL WAS THAT ARTICLE 3
"RAISED EXTREMELY DELICATE QUESTIONS OF SOVEREIGNTY" AND
THAT ARTICLE 1 A AND B RAISED QUESTIONS POSSIBLY AFFECTING
AUSTRIAN PARTICIPATION IN UN PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES.

2. IN RELATION TO MATTER OF SOVEREIGNTY, AGSTNER SAID GOA
WOULD HAVE TO GIVE VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO ITS STATUS
UNDER 1955 STATE TREATY AND TO POSSIBLE REACTION OF OTHER
PARTIES TO TREATY TO AGREEMENT THAT WOULD PERMIT CONTINUOUS
OBSERVATION AND REVIEW BY USG AS PROVIDED FOR IN NOTE.

3. AGSTNER ALSO THOUGHT WORDING OF ARTICLE 1 A AND B MIGHT
POSSIBLY IMPINGE UPON RIGHT OR ABILITY OF AUSTRIA TO
PARTICIPATE IN, OR ASSIGN SPECIFIC PERSONNEL TO, UN PEACEKEEPING
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OPERATIONS SUCH AS IN MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS, OR UPON ABILITY

OF PARTICULAR AUSTRIANS OR AUSTRIAN UNITS TO LEAD, TRAIN,
OR OTHERWISE COOPERATE WITH MILITARY UNITS OF OTHER COUNTRIES
SIMILARLY ENGAGED.

4. IN CONCLUSION, AGSTNER SAID GOA WOULD HAVE TO GIVE VERY
CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO WHOLE AGREEMENT AND THIS WOULD TAKE
SOME TIME IN VIEW OF ABSENCE OF KEY OFFICIALS ON HOLIDAY,
OF IMMINENT REPLACEMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTER, AND OF SENSITIVITY
OF MATTER GENERALLY; HE DID, HOWEVER, FORESEE REQUIREMENT
FOR STATEMENT OF USG VIEWS ON APPLICABILITY OF AGREEMENT TO
UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND ASKED THAT SUCH STATEMENT BE
PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IF IT WERE USG VIEW THAT
AUSTRIAN PARTICIPATION (THAT IS, ASSIGNMENT OF SPECIFIC
PERSONNEL AND THEIR FUNCTIONS WHEN SO ASSIGNED) IN UN
SANCTIONED ACTIVITY WOULD BE IN ANY WAY DEPENDENT UPON REVIEW
OR APPROVAL BY USG, THIS WOULD MAKE PROPOSED AGREEMENT ON USE
OF MAP TRAINING CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE TO GOA. QUESTIONS OF
AUSTRIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND TREATY OBLIGATIONS UNDER STATE
TREATY MAY ALSO CAUSE PROBLEMS. MILITARY ATTACHES ALREADY
MONITOR USE OF TRAINING PROVIDED AUSTRIA UNDER MILITARY
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, BUT AUSTRIANS ARE NOT NOW OBLIGATED EITHER
TO PERMIT OBSERVATION OR TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND HAVE,
IN FACT, OCCASIONALLY TURNED DOWN SPECIFIC EMBASSY REQUESTS.
AUSTRIANS MAY THEREFORE WANT SOMETHING LESS THAN SEEMINGLY
OPEN-ENDED REQUIREMENT FOR OBSERVATION AND INFORMATION
ENVISIONED BY TEXT OF NOTE PROVIDED REFTEL.MEEHAN

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